

PROPOSED USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS TO GIVE THE  
FAMILY NAME HENICOPIDAE POCKOCK, 1901, PRECEDENCE  
OVER THE FAMILY NAME CERMATOBIIIDAE HAASE,  
1885 (MYRIAPODA: CHILOPODA). Z.N.(S.) 2206

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*Abstract.*- The monotypic genus *Cermatobius* Haase, 1885, was for many years considered as a link between the Scutigeromorpha and the Lithobiomorpha among Chilopoda. Re-examination of the holotype of *C. martensii*, long thought to be lost, shows that the generic name is a synonym of *Esastigmatobius* Silvestri, 1909. It follows that CERMATOBIIIDAE Haase, 1885, must displace HENICOPIDAE Pocock, 1901, in widespread use for a large and widely distributed family, unless the Commission intervenes.

The purpose of the present application is to ask the International Commission to use its plenary powers to conserve the generally known family name HENICOPIDAE Pocock, 1901 (*Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.* (7) vol. 8: 448) for use by those zoologists who hold that it denotes the same family as CERMATOBIIIDAE Haase, 1885.

2. In 1885 (*Zool. Anz.* vol. 8: 695) Haase described the family CERMATOBIIIDAE based on a single genus with a single species, *Cermatobius martensii* Haase, *ibid.*, from the Lesser Sunda Island Adonara. *C. martensii* was believed by its author to be a kind of link between the Scutigeromorpha and the Lithobiomorpha. Because of this presumed phylogenetic importance, *Cermatobius*, *C. martensii* and CERMATOBIIIDAE have been discussed in handbooks on Myriapoda (Verhoeff, 1907, in Bronn's *Kl. Ordn. Tierr.*, vol. 5, II, Heft 6 (Lfg. 78-79); Attems, 1927, in Kükenthal, *Handb. Zool.* vol. 4 (1) and in a recent article (Prunescu, 1970, *Bull. Mus. nat. Hist. nat.*, (2) vol. 41, Suppl. 2: 112-115). But all these descriptions and discussions of *Cermatobius* and CERMATOBIIIDAE are based on Haase's second and fuller description (*Abh. Ber. k. Zool. - Anthr. - Ethn. Mus. Dresden*, 1886-7, no. 5: 29-30, pl. 2, fig. 30) because the original type-specimen was thought to be missing.

3. In 1975 I had an opportunity to discover the holotype of *C. martensii* in the Museum für Naturkunde in Berlin. Although the specimen is now in poor condition and shows few specific characters, it shows clearly that *Cermatobius* is identical with *Esastigmatobius* Silvestri, 1909 (*Boll. Lab. Zool. Gen. Agr. Portici*, vol. 4: 47) and hence that Haase's second description was wrong in the most important points. *Esastigmatobius* belongs to the family

HENICOPIDAE Pocock, 1901. Thus application of the Code would necessitate the substitution of HENICOPIDAE by CERMATOBIIIDAE. But this would lead to considerable confusion and disturbance of stability and continuity of usage. The name HENICOPIDAE is well established for a large and widely distributed family. One species is common in Europe and is of biological interest for its parthenogenesis.

4. The name HENICOPIDAE has been used in literature so widely that nothing but confusion would result if the provisions of the Code were strictly applied to its case. It is used in the following practical handbooks: Brölemann, 1930, *Elem. Faune Myriap. Chilop.* France: 331; Verhoeff, 1934, in Brohmer, Ehrmann & Ulmer, *Tierw. Mitteleuropas*, Oberkl. Opisthognatha (Chilopoda), vol. 4: 106; Machado, 1952, *Miriap. Portugal, Chilop., Broteria* vol. 21: 154; Chamberlin, 1956, *Acta Univ. Lund*, Avd. 2, N. S. vol. 51 (5): 49 (key to genera); Eason, 1964, *Centip. British Isles*: 245; Matic, 1966, *Fauna Rep. Soc. Rôm. Chilop. Anamorphia*: 241; and in a biological paper, Enghoff, H., 1957, *Ent. scand.*, vol. 6: 45-46. It is also cited in works dealing with the world fauna: Verhoeff in Bronn's *Kl. Ordn. Tierr.* vol. 5, II: 238, 1907; Attems in Kükenthal's *Handb. Zool.* vol. 4: 486, 1926.

5. HENICOPIDAE Pocock, 1901, is based on *Henicops* Newport, [May]1844, *Proc. linn. Soc. London*, vol. 1, no. 20: 192 (the date is taken from Jackson, B.D., 1888, *General index to the first twenty volumes of the . . . Proceedings Nov. 1838 to June 1886 of the Linnean Society*: v-vii). The genus was established without any included species, but in [Nov]1845, *Trans. linn. Soc. London*, vol. 19: 372, Newport described the new species *H. maculatus* and transferred the species *Lithobius emarginatus* Newport, 1843, to *Henicopus*. (The date of *H. maculatus* is taken from Raphael, 1970, *Biol. J. linn. Soc. London*: 61-76.). Pocock, *op. cit.*: 451, designated *H. maculatus* as the type-species.

6. The Commission is therefore asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to rule that the family-group name HENICOPIDAE Pocock, 1901, is to be given precedence over the family-group name CERMATOBIIIDAE Haase, 1885, by any zoologist who considers that *Cermatobius* Haase, 1885, and *Henicops* Newport, 1844, belong to the same family-group taxon;
- (2) to place the family-group name HENICOPIDAE Pocock, 1901 (type-genus *henicops* Newport, 1844) on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology with an endorsement that it is to be given precedence over CERMATOBIIIDAE Haase, 1885, by any zoologist who

considers that *Henicops* and *Cermatobius* belong to the same family-group taxon;

- (3) to place the family-group name CERMATOBIIIDAE Haase, 1885, (type-genus *Cermatobius* Haase, 1885) on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology with an endorsement that it is not to be given priority over HENICOPIDAE Pocock, 1901, by any zoologist who considers that *Henicops* and *Cermatobius* belong to the same family-group taxon;
- (4) to place the following names on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *Henicops* Newport, 1844 (gender: masculine), type-species, by subsequent designation by Pocock, 1901, *Henicops maculata* [sic] Newport, 1845;
  - (b) *Cermatobius* Haase, 1885 (gender: masculine), type-species, by monotypy, *Cermatobius martensii* Haase, 1885;
- (5) to place the following names on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *maculatus* Newport, 1845, as published in the binomen *Henicops maculata* [sic] (specific name of type-species of *Henicops* Newport, 1844);
  - (b) *martensii* Haase, 1885, as published in the binomen *Cermatobius martensii* (specific name of type-species of *Cermatobius* Haase, 1885).